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LATE EDITORIAL.

It seems that Cousin John must either fight Uncle Sam or take water.

THE GUARDIAN is the paper in which to advertise your Christmas goods.

Now that it's asserted the crow is really the farmer's friend, somebody will eventually say he's not as black as he's painted.

ALTHOUGH we printed a large number of extra copies, the GUARDIAN was in such demand last week that we are now entirely out.

CLAUDE FALLS WRIGHT thinks the Endeavorers had no right to pray for Fingersoll. It would be interesting to know what Bob thinks about it.

A CHICAGO man has invented a bicycle that accommodates the whole family. Other styles are successes, but this is calculated to bring down the house.

The Woman's Suffrage Association of Arizona was organized at Phoenix on the 6th inst. and Mrs. L. C. Hughes, wife of Governor Hughes was elected president.

THERE is more business transacted in Safford in one day now than there was in one month five years ago. This is a good indication of a steady growth.

The article in last week's GUARDIAN headed "Bustling Graham," was taken from the Phoenix Gazette but through an error was not credited.

DURANT has been sentenced to be hanged at San Quintin. When the sentence was pronounced he simply smiled faintly, and commenced talking with his father. An appeal to the supreme court will be asked for.

The proposed new school house in Safford is attracting attention all over the Territory, and people are beginning to believe that this portion of Arizona is what we have always claimed that it is, the very best part of the Territory.

The work accomplished under the direction of the Safford Improvement and Social Club has made a vast difference in the appearance of our town in the last few weeks. We advise all other towns to organize an improvement club.

It is now near Christmas and people are beginning to wonder what they will buy, and where they will buy their Christmas goods. You will find that the firms whose advertisements appear in these columns carry first class goods, and sell at reasonable prices.

In his annual report Secretary Herbert says that the number of enlisted men in the navy needs to be increased by about 1,000. There are not men enough in the service to man the new ships, and the efficiency of the navy is thus injured. There is little necessity for ships if congress does not supply them with men, and there is no use of inaugurating a vigorous foreign policy unless we have a navy to back the notes which emanate from the state department. The very first thing necessary for a vigorous foreign policy is a navy, and to make one it takes men as well as ships, and both cost money.

STABILITY OF VALUES.

The Sophistry of a Gold Standard Writer Completely Overturned.

The sound currency committee of the New York Reform club, which is busy issuing pamphlets to prove that the less money there is in the country the more the individuals of the United States will have, has favored the Express with a document from the pen of Mr. Frank L. McVey, entitled "Quality of Money and Wages." Mr. McVey discusses the quality of money and says, among other things, "for obvious reasons stability of value is an essential quality of a medium which is to be permanently used. Indeed, it is conceivable that a more bulky material, such as iron, might for currency purposes be on the whole better than gold, provided the value of iron at different times and places was more stable than that of gold. In fact, however, the very bulk of iron when compared with gold of the same value tends to make iron less uniform in value than gold. A metal so bulky that a given value of it can with difficulty be transported from place to place, and the local value of which is therefore largely dependent on local demands is naturally less stable in value than one of which the same value can be easily transported that the relations between the local demand for it and supply of it are practically fixed by the relations between demand and supply in a whole country, and almost at once in the whole world. Taking the world over, therefore, for this reason alone (and there are others), gold is more stable in value than iron, just as iron is more stable in value than potatoes; and both on account of the great bulk of a given value and the great variations in their value at different times and places. Potatoes would be less acceptable than either iron or silver or gold as a standard of value or as a medium of exchange."

Mr. McVey is sound in his premises but wrong in his conclusions. Every one of us agrees that the more stable and unchanged a money is in value, the more satisfactory it will be to do business with. It is customary to say that gold is of a stable value, while the other commodities fluctuate, but as a matter of fact gold fluctuates more than any other commodity. The productions of the farm and factories decrease in value, compared with gold, because gold increases in value compared with them. It is nonsense to talk of the intrinsic value of gold. Probably none of the more common metals has less intrinsic value than gold. The intrinsic value of anything is its value to sustain life, to help man clothe himself, or to furnish him with more of the necessities or pleasures of existence. Gold, aside from its position as money, does none of these things. If either gold or iron were to be banished from the earth, mankind would not hesitate to retain iron and allow gold to depart. Lead, copper, zinc, in fact all the baser metals, have intrinsically more value than gold. Silver has a greater intrinsic value. It is harder and more durable, and can be used in the manufacture of knives, forks, and other useful articles much more easily than gold. The intrinsic value argument therefore falls to the ground and gold becomes valueless simply from a monetary standpoint.

The question then remains, has gold fluctuated in value, or is it the commodities that have fluctuated? If the same amount of flour, of potatoes, or other farm products are needed to sustain life to-day, as formerly, then the intrinsic value of flour, of potatoes, etc., has remained stationary. The same thing is true of the commodities used in the manufacture of the articles used in our business, or our home life; intrinsically their value increases only when they become capable of doing us greater service. If this proposition is correct, it follows that it is not commodities, but money that has fluctuated in value. That kind of money, therefore, which retains its value to other commodities the most closely is the most stable kind of currency. If the production of silver has kept pace with its increased productions of the staples and luxuries of life, then we will find the value of silver and the value of other products more nearly on a par.

As a matter of fact, this is exactly what has occurred. Silver, wheat, farm products and clothing have risen and fallen in value together. Of course, sometimes particular circumstances have tended to increase the value temporarily of this or that article of commerce, but taking the average for a term of years, the value of silver compared with that of other commodities has remained very much more stationary than the value of gold. It follows, therefore, that if Mr. McVey's premises are correct, and we believe they are, silver possesses in a far greater degree than gold that very essential characteristic of the best money—stability of value.

Mr. McVey attempts to prove that even if wages are lower on a gold basis than they would be on a silver basis, nevertheless the laborer loses nothing because he can buy more with his gold than he could if he were paid in silver. The fallacy of this idea, however, becomes self-evident when it is seen that in gold countries the wage-earner receives relatively less money, measured by what he can buy, than he does in silver countries. It is a notable fact that while in the United States the consumption of wheat per capita has fallen nearly two bushels per annum, it has risen in Mexico and other silver countries. It is also worthy of note that while the manufacturers in Mexico are rapidly increasing, and the condition of the people is improving daily, that the exact opposite of this has taken place in this country. While goods are certainly cheaper in the United States than ever before, their consumption has fallen off, and the demand for them has greatly decreased. It is evident that the Mexicans with their silver are able to purchase more than Americans with gold, even though wages are lower in Mexico than in the United States compared on the same monetary basis. Mr. McVey's table of the cost and stability of wages in the United States from 1800 to 1891 shows that while the purchasing power of currency was 25 per cent. lower in 1895 than it was in 1800, yet the currency wages were 50 per cent. higher, and this, be it remembered, was at a time when a gold dollar was worth two and one-half times as much as the paper dollar, in which wages were being paid. It follows, therefore, that even with a greatly depreciated currency the wage-earner was better off than he could have been on a gold basis with but little money in the country.

—Los Angeles Express.

THE DUTY OF THE PUBLIC TO THE SCHOOLS.

An Address Delivered to the Graham County Teacher's Institute by Prof. L. V. Rosser.

The first question that arises is the consideration of this subject in as to who is meant by the public. In works on school government, there are said to be four parties comprehended in the idea of a school. These parties are: 1st, the public; 2nd, the parents and guardians; 3rd, the children; 4th, the teachers. Then the public is defined to be the state, county, or district, as a body corporate represented by its agents, the school officers. Under this view the duty of the public to the schools is a very extensive topic, and may be sub-divided into many minor heads. It may be useful to mention some of these. 1st. To provide a sufficient revenue to meet the necessary expenses of the schools.

2nd. To keep the schools in session for a full term of nine months.

3d. To employ a full force of competent teachers and none but professional teachers.

4th. To provide comfortable school houses with agreeable surroundings.

5th. To provide suitable school apparatus and goods school libraries of choice books.

6th. It is the duty of every qualified elector to vote at all school elections and to see to it that suitable persons are chosen for school officers.

7th. It is the duty of every citizen to encourage the schools by visiting them frequently, not only on public occasions but also at any other time.

8th. It is the duty of every person while in the presence or hearing of school children to be especially careful in deportment and discreet in language, so as to avoid setting an immoral or ill-mannered example.

It is greatly to be regretted that the habits of many of our people in reference to the last named heading are such as to counteract, in a large degree, the instructions of the teacher in the school room against the use of profane language; but it is feared that the puny piping of the school teacher on this subject would be like spitting against the current of the wind, and that the spray of his words would simply return to his own face to mock him. It is evident that the chief and most important duty of the public is to provide for the necessary expenses of the school for a full term of nine or ten months, with a sufficient force of competent teachers. How far the schools of Graham county fall below par in reference to the length of the term (about one half or 50 per cent) is a matter of common notoriety and general regret. But it does not seem to be so well known and appreciated that they fall equally as low in reference to the force of teachers employed. This point was plainly brought out under the old apportionment law, which counted one teacher to every fifty pupils of the census roll, and plainly provided that a force of teachers should be employed according to that ratio. This law was repeatedly and continuously violated all over this county by employing only about one half that number of teachers. Under the new law, as under the old, the force of teachers is only about one half the number necessary. Fifty pupils by the census roll gives an average daily attendance for the term of not less than thirty pupils. According to the experience of teachers and by the school laws all over the United States, this number is an ample supply of pupils for a teacher. It thus becomes apparent that our schools fall below the standard by another 50 per cent or nearly so.

Then, rating the condition of our schools by reference to a possible 100, as is customary with the wheat and other crops, we are forced by these figures to place their condition at about 25 to 30. If any one doubts the correctness of this rating, let him only come into the school room during the first week of one of our five month's terms of school just after a seven months vacation of forgetting, and he will be forced to acknowledge the correctness of the estimate. It is worth while to notice while passing, that the long vacation of forgetting is more disastrous to some branches of study than to others. It is especially fatal to arithmetic, the study of all others most important for boys. Arithmetic is begun every fall. The close of the term leaves the larger boys floundering in fractions, if they are so fortunate as to have gotten that far. The new term finds them beginning where they began the term before, thus the treadmill works, term in and term out, for three or four or even five or six successive years. Here is a fearful waste of time, energy and money.

The course of study in all common schools of the present day, where any pretension is made of keeping them abreast with modern advancement, not only requires the usual recitations in reading, spelling, arithmetic, &c., but also demands of the teacher to give oral lessons at regular stated times on various other subjects; such as, civil government and political economy, physiology and hygiene, physics, plants and animals, rocks and minerals, form and color, morals and manners, besides

frequent exercises in vocal music and calisthenics, drawing and penmanship. Now, in ungraded schools, even where there is a full force of teachers, it is a very difficult problem for the teacher to find time to touch on a few of these subjects. With our overcrowded schools with one teacher attempting the work of two, the problem is wholly or well nigh beyond practical solution. Again, it is universally conceded that the best method of maintaining order in the school room is to keep the children busy, especially the little ones. With a double allotment of pupils to the teacher this efficacious remedy is frequently out of reach, the result is that the children grow up in at least partial idleness and readily acquire vicious habits.

To be continued.

L. L. DYCHE, of the Kansas State University says he is going to reach the North pole. He talks the same as all other arctic explorers, that there is no possibility of a failure, that he is just as certain to reach the pole as the sun shines. Prof. Dyche's plan seems to be about the only practicable way of reaching the pole if it is ever to be accomplished. He says he will start out with no less than 12 year's provisions, and will commence to store them on the southern shore of Greenland and continue to make stores no further apart than one day's sledge journey. He believes that the difficulty of reaching the pole is not in the coldness of climate but in the lack of provisions and he proposes to overcome this difficulty by taking plenty with him.

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